Please charge any fees, including any fees for extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: April 18, 2002

By: _____

Ginger R. Dreger
Registration No. 33,055
Attorney of Record
620 Newport Center Drive
Sixteenth Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Version with markings to show changes made

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 49, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

--The deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 17) of DNA48614 and comparison to SEQ ID NO: 15, revealed it to be an alternatively spliced form of DNA48613, with a 30 amino acid deletion (amino acid positions 127-157, counting from the initiation methionine), as shown in Figure 4. Interestingly, none of the cysteines are deleted in this clone. Clones DNA48613 and DNA48614 have been deposited with ATCC and are assigned ATCC deposit nos. 209752 (Designation: DNA48613-1268) and 209751 (Designation: DNA48614-1268), respectively. A comparison of the nucleic acid sequences encoding DNA48613 with those encoding human GFRα1 and GFRα2 is provided in Figures 5A-B. The 5'untranslated GFRα3 sequence immediately upstream of the initiation ATG in the cloned DNA48613 is GCGAGGGGAGCGCGGAGCCCGGCGCCTACAGCTCGCC (SEQ ID NO 21).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 54, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The GFRα3 was fused upstream of an epitope tag contained within a Baculovirus expression vector. Such epitope tags include poly-his tags and immunoglobulin tags (like Fc regions of IgG). The amino acid sequence of the human GFRα3-IgG fusion is provided in SEQ ID NO: 18. A variety of plasmids may be employed, including plasmids derived from commercially available plasmids such as pVL1393 (Novagen). Briefly, GFRα3 sequence encoding the extracellular domain) was amplified by PCR with primers complementary to the 5' and 3' regions. The 5' primer incorporate flanking (selected) restriction enzyme sites. The product was then digested with those selected restriction enzymes and subcloned into the expression vector. The vector for expression of GFRα3-IgG in insect cells was pb.PH (where expression in Baculovirus was under control of the polyhedrin promoter).--